

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed October 26, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 2, 3, and 5-16 are pending in this application, with claims 5 and 9 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claims 5 and 9 have each been rewritten in independent form incorporating the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 4. Claims 2, 3, and 10 are amended to dependent from independent claim 9. Claims 2, 5, 7, 9, and 10 are also amended to make corrections related to proper antecedent basis. New claims 13-16 correspond to claims 5-8 and are added to depend from independent claim 9.

Response to Rejections

Claims 5-9 were found to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the allowable subject matter, claims 5 and 9 are written in independent form. Accordingly, independent claims 5 and 9 should be allowable as incorporating allowable subject matter.

Dependent claims 2, 3, 6-8, and 10-16, each being dependent on one of independent claims 5 and 9, are deemed to be allowable for the same reasons expressed above with respect to independent claims 5 and 9, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any additional fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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